

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 have been allowed.

Claims 42-47 and 50-53 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Claims 42, 45, 46, 47, 50, 52, and 53 have been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims from which they depend. Accordingly, these claims are believed to be allowable.

Claims 40, 41, 48, 49, and 54 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Washington et al. (US Pat. No. 5,048,773). Claims 40, 41, and 54 have been cancelled. Claims 48 and 49 have been rewritten to depend from claims 42, 45, 46, or 47, which contain allowable subject matter. In view of the above amendments, this rejection is believed to be moot, and no further comment thereon is necessary at this time.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and indication thereof are respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,  
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